

SYLLABUS

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS POLS 1600


2010

Prepared by the Nebraska Community College Initiative Task Force on
Economics

Committee Members:

Robert Chamberlain
Nikki Iseman
Chris Waddle
Doug Clouatre
Royce Ammon

Northeast Community College
Southeast Community College
Central Community College
Mid-Plains Community College
Western Nebraska Community College


Group Leader:

4/16/2010
Date


NCCA Instructional Officer Chair

5/16/2010
Date

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

POLS1600

International Relations

Prerequisite: None

An introductory survey of the actors, institutions, processes, and theories of international relations including a study of contemporary global issues.

4.5 quarter credit hours

3.0 semester credit hours

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES/COMPETENCIES

On completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Discuss various theories of, and approaches to, the study of international politics.
2. Understand the history and evolving characteristics of sovereignty, the nation-state, nationalism, and national interest.
3. Identify and discuss rival political, religious, economic and other belief systems in global context.
4. Discuss power, security, and the tools and dynamics of cooperation and conflict in international politics.
5. Assess the role of economic interdependence in international relations.
6. Describe the sources and characteristics of international law.
7. Explain the role of global and regional organizations including government and non-governmental bodies.
8. Identify emerging issues such as terrorism, the drug trade, migration, and the environment.

III. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

- A. Required Text(s) – Select one or more of the following:
 - 1. International Politics on the World Stage
ORourke, John
 - 2. International Relations: Conflict and Cooperation at the Turn of the 21st Century
Henderson (McGraw-Hill)
 - 3. International Relations
Goldstein (Longman)
 - 4. International Politics: Power and Purpose in Global Affairs, Brief Edition, 1st Edition

IV. COURSE OUTLINE

- A. The origins and evolution of the international system
- B. The state and nationalism
- C. Foreign policy-making and levels of analysis in international relations
- D. A survey of competing transnational values and competing ideologies
- E. International political economy
- F. The use power, force and conflict resolution in global politics
- G. International organizations and law

V. SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- a. In order to receive a passing grade in the course, students must complete the work assigned by the instructor in a satisfactory manner and within time frames allowed.
- b. Regular attendance, reading, examinations, writing assignments, discussion and respectful behavior are all required course components.

VI. METHOD OF PRESENTATION

Instructors should make use of varied pedagogical techniques, including several of the following: lectures, small and large discussion groups, collaborative projects, research, essays, computer-assisted instruction, multi media and field trips.

VII. METHODS OF EVALUATION:

Course grades, at the determination of instructor, will be based on class and group presentation, daily work, exams, presentations, projects, papers, and/or a portfolio. Instructor will distribute and discuss evaluation and her/his grading policies with students at the beginning of each term.